

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Relay~~A relay set (1,11, 23) for the optical system of a rigid endoscope, said optical system comprising:  
  
an objective (20) at ~~the~~a distal end;  
  
an ocular (22) at ~~the~~a proximal end; and  
  
between ~~them~~the objective (20) and ocular (22), a relay lens system consisting of several relay sets (1,11, 21,23), said relay set (1,11, 23) consisting of two half sets (2a, 2b) having the same lens units (3a1, 3a2,3a3, 3a4 ; 3b1, 3b2, 3b3,3b4) arranged in symmetrical sequence with respect to the center (5) of the set, ~~characterised in that~~wherein each half set (2a, 2b) consists of four lens units (3a1, 3a2,3a3, 3a4; 3b1, 3b2,3b3, 3b4) having, in the sequence of raising distance from the center (5), the refracting powers Positive, Negative, Positive, Positive (P, N, P, P).
  
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Relay~~The relay set according to claim 1, characterised ~~in that~~wherein the pairs (3a1-3b1, 3a2-3b2,3a3-3b3, 3a4-3b4) of corresponding lens

units of the half sets (2a, 2b) are arranged at symmetrical distances from the center (5).

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Relay~~The relay set according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that the~~wherein outermost lens units (14a, 14b) of the half sets (2a, 2b) are arranged at asymmetrical distances from the center (5).

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Relay~~The relay set according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein in the gap between the half sets (2a, 2b), a glass rod (7) with parallel end faces is placed.

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